



**CHARLIE CRIST**  
GOVERNOR

***DROWSY DRIVING PREVENTION WEEK***

**WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature created the Ronshay Dugans Act, which designates the first week of September as a time to remind everyone of the risks associated with drowsy driving; and**

**WHEREAS, eight-year-old Ronshay Dugans lost her life after a cement truck driver fell asleep at the wheel and hit the school bus she was riding; by sharing Ronshay's story, we are reminded of the devastating impact drowsy driving can have; and**

**WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that each year, driver fatigue results in 100,000 police-reported crashes, 1,550 deaths and 71,000 injuries; and**

**WHEREAS, 28 percent of American drivers have admitted to falling asleep at the wheel, according to a recent National Sleep Foundation poll, and more than half (54 percent) said they have driven while drowsy; and**

**WHEREAS, research has shown fatigue to be equivalent to alcohol-related impairment and as dangerous while operating a motor vehicle; and**

**WHEREAS, getting a good night's sleep before driving, planning adequate travel time and heeding warning signs can save lives; and**

**WHEREAS, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and the Department of Transportation join stakeholders, victims and advocates to bring attention to drowsy driving and how it can impact everyone on Florida's roadways;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the state of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing September 5 - 11, 2010, as Drowsy Driving Prevention Week.**



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capitol, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year two thousand ten.**

  
Governor